



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH 10TH – MARCH 16TH AS NATIONAL GROUNDWATER AWARENESS WEEK IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

WHEREAS, without water, life – animal, plant, or human – could not exist; and

WHEREAS, water is a scarce and valuable resource, especially in the American West, where low precipitation levels result and an arid climate result in limited water reserves; and

WHEREAS, climate change is expected to exacerbate the challenges of managing water, as longer periods of drought punctuated by extreme weather events are expected to make rainfall more difficult to capture; and

WHEREAS, groundwater in aquifers below the earth's surface makes up over a thousand times more water than is in all the world's surface water in rivers and lakes; and

WHEREAS, in Santa Barbara County, groundwater makes up approximately 50% of water supplied in public water systems, and roughly 80% of our overall water supply; and

WHEREAS, National Groundwater Awareness Week is an annual week of awareness, education, and advocacy, focusing on one of the nation's most precious resources; and

WHEREAS, National Groundwater Awareness Week reminds us that water conservation is important in using this limited resource wisely; and

WHEREAS, National Groundwater Awareness Week serves as an annual reminder to groundwater well owners in Santa Barbara County to test, tend, and treat their private water systems regularly; and

WHEREAS, we should always be mindful of maintaining groundwater health by keeping hazardous chemical pollutants such as paint, fertilizer, pesticides, and motor oil far away from water wells, and by maintaining a "clean" zone of at least 50 feet between water wells and any kennels or livestock operations; and

WHEREAS, groundwater is a valuable resource that, if protected and managed properly, can continue to be utilized now and for generations to come.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors declares March 10th – March 16th, 2024 as National Groundwater Awareness Week in Santa Barbara County.

PASSED and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this 12th day of March 2024.



ATTEST:

[Signature]
Clerk of the Board

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Supervisor - 1st District

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Supervisor - 2nd District

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Supervisor - 3rd District

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Supervisor - 4th District

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Supervisor - 5th District